

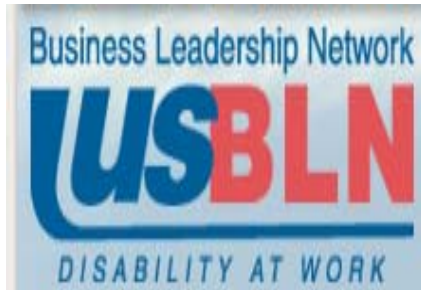


# Job Corps disABILITY News

June 2008

A Resource for Job Corps Disability Coordinators

## Business Leadership Networks - There's One Near You!



There is a growing need in Job Corps to find supportive employers that are willing to provide jobs to Job Corps students who happen to have disabilities. The US Business Leadership Network (USBLN) is an organization that could be a vital partner in building relationships with businesses in the community surrounding your center. The USBLN recognizes and promotes best practices in hiring, retaining, and marketing to people with disabilities.

There are 44 Business Leadership Network chapters in 32 states, including the District of Columbia, representing more than 5,000 employers across the US. The BLN uses a "business to business" approach to educate, promoting the business imperative of including people with disabilities in the workforce.

The USBLN is a predominantly volunteer association with chapters run by companies such as General Motors, Sun Trust, and Motorola.

The website (<http://www.usbln.org>) provides information about USBLN affiliate offices and the services they offer. The site also has information on mentoring and internship programs for youth with disabilities.

Here are some suggestions on how to use local BLN services:

- Business Community Liaisons (BCLs) should contact their local BLN to find out more about the program, including services offered and how to become more involved.
- Ask BLN representatives to provide staff/student training on diversity or to work with students/transition staff on issues related to employment of people with disabilities (e.g., disclosure, interviewing, etc.).
- Build relationships with BLN companies that are interested in hiring persons with disabilities (e.g., invite BLN members to join center community or employer boards, invite them to Job Corps community events and activities such as career and health fairs, outreach activities, blood drives, and service projects, etc.)

### Web Resources

#### Job Corps DisABILITY

<http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/>

#### Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities

<http://jccdrj.jobcorps.gov/ld>

#### Mental Health Disabilities

<http://jchealth.jobcorps.gov/health-topics/mhd>

#### Job Accommodation Network (JAN)

<http://www.jan.wvu.edu/>

#### Guidance for Meeting the Needs of Applicants/Students Who Are Deaf or Head of Hearing

[http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/hoh\\_overview.htm](http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/hoh_overview.htm)

## Disclosure Decision Making



Virginia Commonwealth University, home of one of Virginia's One-Stop Disability Navigator programs, has created an information sheet for a person with a disability on if/when/how to disclose his/her disability to an employer. It offers suggestions on when to disclose, how it will benefit the potential employee, and what concerns he/she may encounter along the way.

This information sheet and other resources on disclosure are available on the Job Corps Disability Website at [http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/cdss\\_cd.htm](http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/cdss_cd.htm).

## Planning Summer Disability Training?



The time for planning summer break training is here. Three disability webinars will be offered on July 1, 8, 10. Topics include:

- Accommodations and Strategies for Career Technical Instructors (July 1)
- Accommodations and Strategies for Academic Instructors (July 8)
- Resources for Career Transition Staff (July 10)

These webinars are an excellent supplement to other planned center training.

Interested in some great resources for center summer disability training? Here are a few ideas:

**The Disability Website** offers a training materials in the resource section of the website. Materials include PowerPoint presentations that can be downloaded and modified to suit your center needs.

[http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/resources\\_training.htm](http://jcdisability.jobcorps.gov/html/resources_training.htm)

The **Learning Disability Website** also has a presentation and training section. Most of the presentations are from webinars presented throughout the year or onsite regional and contractor trainings. <http://jccdr.jobcorps.gov/ld/webinar>

**DisabilityTraining.com** provides over 600 videos, CDs, and DVDs for purchase. Streaming previews are available for many of the resources. Topics focus on the service provider, Special Education, and employment issues.

<http://www.disabilitytraining.com/preview.html>

**Job Corps Disability Website Training**—Kay Bain, Disability Coordinator at the Oneonta Job Corps center, has designed a presentation to make all staff aware of the resources and information available on the Job Corps Disability Website. Staff are provided the presentation prior to scheduled all staff training and can save the presentation and work through the answer sheet provided at their own pace. Kay then holds an all staff training to discuss the answers and provide additional information about the website. This is a great ice breaker activity to kick off your all staff disability training. You can come up with a new set of questions for each training. An example of this training is available on the Job Corps Disability Website under resources/training materials/general/Job Corps Website Training.

Contact your Regional Disability Coordinator. She can assist you in the development of training and provide resources to make training relevant to your center staff.

### Regional Disability Coordinators

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## FREE Resources !!!

Job Corps, in conjunction with SIATech, developed two DVDs designed to support your reasonable accommodation team and classroom instructors.

- *Team Approach to Accommodating Students with Disabilities at Job Corps*. Demonstrates the center reasonable accommodation process, including an IDT meeting with an applicant. Three accommodation scenarios are featured. This DVD is a great staff training tool.
- *Ten Simple Strategies for Enhancing Educational Experiences*. This instructor-focused DVD demonstrates successful inclusion tactics for connecting with students. It was filmed at several Job Corps centers.

*Assistive Technology Wheel*. Designed by Council for Exceptional Children and the Wisconsin Assistive Technology Initiative, this wheel takes each of the major disability categories and provides examples of low- to high-level technology accommodations based on student need.

Contact Kimberly Jones ([kim.jones@humanitas.com](mailto:kim.jones@humanitas.com)) if you would like any of these resources.